

The Children's Newspaper, Week Ending June 27, 1947



EVERY TUESDAY

# CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

JUNE 21,  
1947  
No 1474

PRICE THREEPENCE

## A TALE OF TWO PLATES

### Precious Relics of the Early History of Australia

AUSTRALIA is today the proud owner of a treasured relic which records two famous events in that great country's early history. The French Government has recently presented to the Dominion a 250-year-old pewter plate, on which are inscribed the names of two of the first white men, Dirck Hartog and Willem de Vlamingh, to land in Australia.

It was in 1616 that Dirck Hartog, a Dutch sea-captain, sailing in his little ship far away from the seas then known to Europeans, came to the wild coast of a vast continent and landed on an island at the entrance to a bay. The coast was that of Western Australia, and the island, afterwards known as Dirck Hartog's Island, is at the entrance of Shark Bay. Dirck set up a rough chunk of wood, and on this post he nailed an old tin dinner plate on which he had scratched, in Dutch, this record:

*On the 25th of October, 1616, arrived here the ship Eendracht, of Amsterdam; the first merchant, Giles Mibais Van Luyck; captain, Dirck Hartog, of Amsterdam; the 27th ditto set sail from Bantam; under-merchant, Jan Stoyen; upper steersman, Pieter Dockes, from Bil. A° 1616.*

This is the first authentic document in the history of Australia. Gallant Dirck Hartog and his little party had, as it were, left their visiting cards on the new continent, and sailed on.

#### The Two Records

Eighty-one years later, in 1697, another Dutchman, Willem de Vlamingh, landed on the same island and found Dirck Hartog's rough memorial. Vlamingh took down the plate and prepared another of his own. He flattened out an ordinary ship's pewter plate and inscribed on it a copy of old Dirck's message and added another recording his own landing. This he stuck to the post in place of Dirck's, which he took with him to Holland.

More than a century rolled

over the sands of Dirck Hartog's Island. Our glorious Captain Cook explored the smiling eastern side of Australia, more promising than the frowning western side the earlier adventurers had visited, and the first British settlement was on the east side. And so no one found the old plate telling of the visits of Hartog and Vlamingh on the west coast.

#### Taken Away to France

Then, in 1801, a Frenchman, Hamelin, stepped ashore on Dirck's island. He found an old post toppled over and half-eaten away, and close to it, Vlamingh's plate half-buried in the sand. Hamelin set up the post again and put the plate back in position, but in 1817 another Frenchman, Freycinet, landed and took Vlamingh's plate away with him to his Homeland, where he presented it to the Institut de France as a curious relic.

After that, for many years, the two plates became a mere legend, for they were both lost. Not until this century was Dirck Hartog's original plate (the one removed by Vlamingh) rediscovered among odds and ends in the State Museum at Amsterdam, where it is now a prized treasure.

Vlamingh's 1697 plate was not rediscovered until 1938, when someone found it, rusty and crumbling, in a French museum. It has been flown to the British Museum for preservative treatment before being placed in the National Library at Canberra.

The Australian people are naturally delighted by this gracious gift from the people of France.

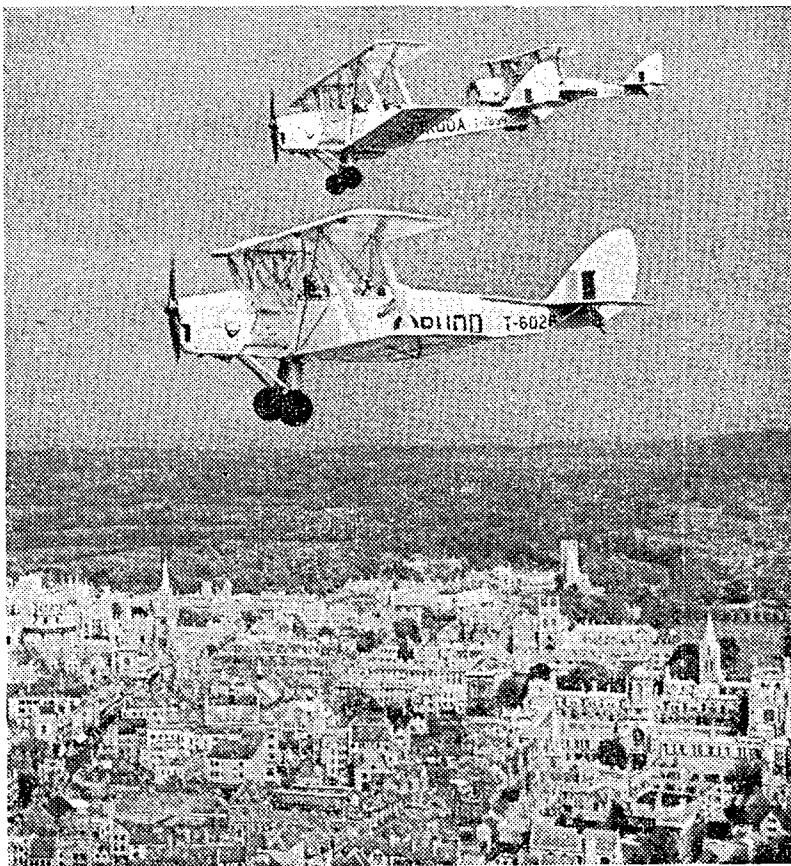
#### TASMANIA'S TIGER

THE marsupial wolf known as Leo, the Tasmanian Tiger, and regarded by zoologists as almost extinct, is reported to have been seen recently near the Derwent Valley by two men.

The men were clearing a power line over a range of hills when they saw the animal hunting a wallaby. It passed within 20 yards of them.

For years zoologists have searched for the Tasmanian tiger with little success. The animal is confined to the less accessible parts of Tasmania and resembles a dog in the general shape of its body. Its fur is short and rather harsh, of a general grey-brown colour. The back in the region behind the shoulders is marked with a number of transverse blackish-brown bands, which led to its being known locally as the Tasmanian tiger.

## WINGS OVER THE CITY OF SPIRES



*In this fine picture members of the Oxford University Air Squadron are passing over the city during a flight in Tiger Moth training machines. Christ Church, with Tom Tower and the cathedral spire, is on the right, with Magdalen Tower in the background and the Sheldonian Theatre on the left.*

*Today, in the eleven university squadrons throughout the country are many ex-R A F men, who generally assume their wartime rank, while other students are enrolled as Officer-cadets. Each member is required to do 15 hours flying in a term, and a period in camp. The squadrons are administered by R A F Reserve Command.*

## Weapons For Fighting Insect Pests

NEW chemical weapons are constantly being sought in the perpetual war between man and the insects.

Insect pests rob mankind of cultivated crops to the extent of hundreds of millions of pounds' worth each year, and in spite of an immense amount of research, we still cling largely to the substance pyrethrum, which is obtained from two out of 150 kinds of chrysanthemum plant. The Persians used pyrethrum obtained from dried flowers in their fight against insects a hundred years ago, while even today the Japanese use it to make the joss sticks which they burn to keep mosquitoes away.

Derris is another name that is becoming increasingly familiar in shops which sell insecticides. This was used by the natives in Eastern Asia for poisoning fish, or stupefying them so as to make it easy to catch them. Chinese market gardeners in Malaya discovered the value of derris in the

fight against insects which attacked their vegetables. Then, in the early part of this century, it was adopted for use in England.

In this age of chemist-made substitutes for natural things, it is not surprising to find synthetic substances already vying with the roots and flowers. The chemical names are as formidable as the botanical isobutyl-undecylenamide and a l p h a-naphthyl - isothiocyanate being two which have proved to be even more powerful than pyrethrum and other natural poisoners of insect pests.

Scientific search is, nevertheless, being made for better insecticides of vegetable origin, and already comes news of a remarkable root grown in South Africa which has proved of great value in defending many crops from the ravages of insects. One of the difficulties in the search is that any poisons used must be harmless to man and animal.

## A FRIENDLY EXPLOSION IN GERMANY

A FRIENDLY interchange of an explosion was recently arranged in the British occupation zone of Germany.

The British had 30 tons of high explosive (TNT) for which they had no other use except to blow it up. The Germans had a promising oil field some miles away in the Elbe valley, above Hamburg, and wanted to know more about the rocks below it where oil might be found.

One of the ways of ascertaining the whereabouts of oil is to

sink explosives down a shaft, explode them and learn from the vibrations they set up in the surrounding earth where the oil is likely to be. In the 30 tons of TNT the Germans saw an explosion ready to hand. So they consulted the British authorities, who agreed to help, and by chronometers set to correspond, informed the German experts of the exact moment when the blow-up took place, and when the vibrations would set out in the direction of the oil field.

## PIDGIN-ENGLISH ON THE AIR

### Lesson For New Guinea Folk

STRANGE sounds are coming over the air from radio station 9 P A at Port Moresby in New Guinea these days. They are in sessions of pidgin-English beamed to the natives.

Pidgin-English is used in conversation with natives, Asiatics, and German white missionaries. Any newcomer who wants to keep on friendly terms with his "boys" is advised to study this language, as they take a poor view of a white man who cannot converse with them. They feel, not without reason, that as it was the white man who taught them this language, all white men are naturally able to speak it themselves.

The Germans originally occupied New Guinea, and they tried unsuccessfully to teach their language to the natives; but they simply could not manage the guttural sounds. So the Germans were forced to teach English words instead, and pidgin-English was the result. Axe, for example, became "axis," bath became "wash, wash," exchange became "change im," and frog became "croak, croak."

Anyone stumped for a pidgin word to describe a thing substitutes the word "something." A request to a "boy" to find a collar stud, made in these words, "Bring im something belong pass im neck" (collar) would have satisfactory results!

#### Navy Sale



Nearly 600 ship's bells are being sold by the Royal Navy at Chatham, the collection including bells from many famous ships.



## WHY WE MUST INCREASE OUR EXPORTS

NEVER before in history have so many people been interested in the apparently dull subject of economics. And indeed there was, before the war, hardly any reason for most of us to stop to think about it. Then we could walk into a shop and buy whatever caught our fancy. Not so now. Rationing, shortages, and queues are today the unpleasant things connected with shopping. Why is all this?

A well-illustrated booklet, prepared for the Board of Trade and entitled *We Live by Exports* (Stationery Office, 4d) gives a simple explanation of our country's economic situation and an answer to the questions: Why can't we have the goods first? Why must there be insistence upon exports? How have conditions changed since the years before the war?

In brief, Britain's position is like this: our islands are too small to feed their large populations with all the things they need—bread, meat, butter and margarine, cheese and fruit—though we are actually producing today much more of our own food than before the war. Moreover, many of the things we consume cannot be produced here. Tea, coffee, rice, and oranges, for example, can be obtained only from abroad.

Nor are we able to clothe ourselves. Most of the wool and leather, and all the cotton and silk, we use for this purpose comes from overseas.

Our factories, shipyards, mines and farms, too, need a lot of timber, iron ore, fertilisers, and animal feeding-stuffs.

### Too Far to the Cinema

It seems strange that in our crowded little island there should be people who seldom or never go to the pictures because they live too far away from a cinema. But that is the case with crofters' families in remote areas of the Highlands of Scotland.

To these out-of-the-way folk the cinema is to be taken by the Highland and Islands Film Guild, under a scheme made possible by the Carnegie Trust and helped by the Scottish Education Department.

The first of these film shows was given recently at Tongue, on the north coast of Sutherland. Special shows are to be given for young farmers' clubs, women's rural institutes, and church guilds.

### A BLIND DOG'S JOURNEY

MOLLY is a blind ten-year-old terrier, who lives at Wishaw in Lanarkshire. Not long ago her owner, Mrs J. Shields, took Molly with her by car to stay with some friends at Harthill, 12 miles away.

There Molly disappeared, and after a prolonged search, in which police and schoolchildren helped, her mistress sadly concluded that poor blind Molly had gone for a walk and got lost. But when Mrs Shields returned to Wishaw, there was Molly, lying on her usual chair and looking rather tired after her 12-mile walk! She must have been guided home by that mysterious homing instinct which some animals seem to share with birds.

All these supplies, without which this country could neither work nor live, must naturally be paid for. In this country we pay for the goods we buy with pounds sterling, in America with dollars, in Argentina with the peso. It is clear, therefore, that if we buy things overseas we must pay for our purchases with the currency of the country that sells them to us—United States, Argentina, or France, as the case may be. But how are we to get that foreign currency to pay for our purchases?

### How We Obtain Dollars

There are two ways to do it. Either we persuade foreign countries to lend us some of their money (as we have done with the United States), or we sell our own goods to the foreign countries and thus obtain the money with which to buy their goods. In addition to her earnings by selling overseas such goods as motor-cars, Britain earns foreign currency by rendering to the foreigners such important services as transporting them on British ships, insuring their firms against loss from fire or theft, and in banking. Foreign currency is also earned as interest on money invested by us overseas.

Our average income from all these sources in the years 1936-38 was short of our total cost of imports by only £36,000,000.

The situation changed considerably for the worse during the war, and at the end of it our overseas debt was £3,355,000,000.

### Bridging the Gap

How then are we going to manage with all our needs of foreign goods undiminished, but with our supply of foreign currency so drastically diminished? The answer to this is very simple: by increasing our exports so much as to make up for the loss of other sources of overseas income. Our experts have worked out these needs in great detail. They say that we should be well on the way toward bridging the gap if we exported by the end of this year two-fifths more but imported one-fifth less than in 1938. Later on we must export nearly four-fifths more than in 1938.

This is not an easy task, but fortunately we are reaching our target figures. We must strain ourselves to the utmost to keep our exports going. Moreover, we must expand our export trade as quickly as we can, and especially in the countries where our goods will earn dollars.

Further, we must, as the phrase goes, keep these markets "open" for our goods. These are the markets we shall largely have to rely on in future; we must serve them now or we shall lose them. If we come too late with such goods as machinery, motor-cars, textiles, and so on, we shall have a backbreaking job to get into markets filled with other countries' exports.

## Nigerian Sculptor in London

THE symbolic carving in wood at the entrance to British Empire Leprosy Relief Association's Exhibition—described recently in the C.N.—was made by a Nigerian sculptor, Ben Enwonwu, who is a student at the Slade School.

To provide wood for the carving, an elm tree was felled by order of the LCC Parks Committee. A sawmills firm, as their gift to Belra, cut the tree trunk to the required size. But when it was delivered to Ben's residence in Hampstead, the tree trunk was too big to be taken indoors, so Ben carried out his carving in the garden.

Ben Enwonwu is the son of a woodcarver of Onitsha in Southern Nigeria, and he came to England three years ago. He is a painter as well as a sculptor, and in 1939, at the San Francisco World Fair, he won a medal for his paintings. Dr Julian Huxley specially invited him to represent Africa at the Unesco Exhibition of Modern Art in Paris.

### A Noble Sport



A bowman of the Royal Company of Archers shooting for the Musselburgh Silver Arrow, Scotland's oldest award for competitive sport. By ancient custom the winner is allowed to graze a goose for a year on the links where the contest was held.

## AN ANIMAL'S GREAT STRENGTH

THE feats of strength attributed to the rabbit-sized Australian echidna, or spiny anteater, no longer seem fantastic to a Sydney man, who recently caught one. He put it into a four-gallon tin covered with a heavy sheet of galvanised iron. The tin and iron went into a 12-gallon copper and the lid of the copper was weighted down with bricks. A few hours later the man returned, and found the lid off the tin, the copper lid pushed easily aside—and no echidna!

Zoologists say the echidna's extraordinary strength is obtained through the leverage its muscular little body obtains by the strategic use of its quills. A South Australian expert once shut up an echidna in his kitchen overnight. By morning the animal had pushed a heavy dresser, a table, chairs, and several boxes from the walls to the centre of the room. The only thing in the kitchen that hadn't been moved was the gas-stove, and that was bolted to the floor!

## WORLD NEWS REEL

**MILES OF CARPET.** When the Shah of Persia visited Marabeh, in Azerbaijan, Persian carpets covered the road for three miles.

A Lancaster piloted by Air Vice-Marshall D. C. T. Bennett was the first plane ever to fly non-stop from London to Bermuda. The Lancaster was refuelled in the air over the Azores by a tanker aircraft, receiving 1800 gallons.

Not long ago ten British films were being shown simultaneously in New York, a record number. They were *Great Expectations*, *Odd Man Out*, *A Matter of Life and Death*, *The Rake's Progress*, *Brief Encounter*, *This Happy Breed*, *The Years Between*, *The Captive Heart*, *The Wicked Lady*, and *The Seventh Veil*.

**OLD FRIENDS.** Between June 9 and 16 demonstration flights were carried out over Britain by a squadron of B 29 Superfortresses of the U S Army Air Force, which was making a good will and training visit to the R.A.F.

Portugal has placed orders in Britain for the building of ten ships for the Portuguese merchant navy.

India has ordered 300 heavy railway engines costing over £6,000,000 from British engineering firms.

## HOME NEWS REEL

**THE MONKEY!** A Rhesus monkey belonging to a Hull business man escaped from its home and roamed about the city for six weeks before being captured in the LNER goods yard.

Twenty-six miners of Thorne Colliery, near Doncaster, have agreed to give their holiday week this year to help farmers with the harvest.

The famous Canterbury Festival of Music and Drama is being held June 21-28. Applications for tickets (with stamped addressed envelope) to Hon Festival Manager, 3 Precincts, Canterbury.

**TYNE TUNNEL.** Work has begun on the new tunnel under the River Tyne which is to link the two industrial districts of Howdon and Jarrow. The construction of the tunnel will cost £3,600,000.

Norfolk Education Committee have appointed a transport officer to organise travelling arrangements for schoolchildren. His salary is to be £575 a year.

Swarms of mosquitoes recently settled on a Goodwin Sands Lightship.

**FAIRY ATOM.** A baby Shetland pony, born not long ago at Bodiam in Sussex, was 19 inches high when two weeks old and weighed 15 lbs. Its name is Fairy Atom.

## YOUTH NEWS REEL

**LINK-UP.** Under the "Link-up Scheme" 659 Scout Groups are in touch with groups in other countries. The 5th Staines Sea Scout Troop writes, to a Troop of Sea Scouts in a Displaced Persons camp in Germany.

This summer over 2000 British Scouts will be going abroad at the invitation of foreign Scouts, and some 500 foreign Scouts will be coming here to stay with Scouts in this country.

Canada's Boy Scouts are soon to have a new uniform, specially designed to meet Canadian climatic conditions.

Not long ago one-and-a-half tons of fresh salmon was flown from Stockholm to Northolt.

The remains of a Stone-Age village, estimated to be 25,000 years old, has been found near Kladno, north of Prague.

**THE TYRANT.** The Mahdi's tomb at Omdurman, near Khartoum in the Sudan, has been rebuilt. It was destroyed by General Kitchener's artillery after the battle of Omdurman in 1898. The Mahdi was a Sudanese tyrant and his tomb was bombarded so that the Sudanese people should no longer believe the legend that it was invulnerable.

An entire block of buildings in New York, valued at 3,500,000 dollars, has been given by Mr John D. Rockefeller to the New York Memorial Hospital.

Mr Churchill, on behalf of the Opposition, has agreed that a Bill for the establishment of the Dominions of Hindustan and Pakistan in India shall be passed through Parliament in the present session, which ends early in August.

**FOOD FIRST.** The U S Occupation Authorities in Germany have forbidden the manufacture of beer in Bavaria until the food crisis is over.

When Mr Frederick Edis of Harrogate, who was lying in bed ill with flu, heard shouts coming from the river nearby, he rushed from bed in his pyjamas, dived into the river, and rescued a boy of three.

Whale meat will be sold at 2s a lb this summer. About 1000 tons of meat have been ordered and more may be imported if the public taste for it develops.

**SORRY!** The young deputy organist at Chenies Church, Herts, was wrongly named in a recent C.N. She is Heather Crook.

Large numbers of giant frogs have invaded Romney Marsh. It is believed they are descended from two prize edible frogs from the Continent which were released in a local pond some years ago.

In Sheffield a residential county college is to be established to cater each year for about 400 deaf young people between the ages of 16 and 18.

**OLD SPORT.** An imperfect copy of the first English sporting book ever printed, *The Book of Hawking, Hunting, and Heraldry*, printed by The Schoolmaster Printer, St Albans, in 1486, was sold recently for £2300.

During the first three months of this year British exports of engineering equipment to all countries showed an increase of 74 per cent over the first quarter of 1946.

**GUIDES' LIFEBOAT.** The lifeboat Guide of Dunkirk, which Girl Guides of the British Empire gave to the R.N.L.I. and which had its baptism of fire at Dunkirk, was officially launched at Helston last week.

Groups of German Youth Leaders are coming to Britain during the next few months to study the Youth Movements in this country. They will attend a week's course at a Boys Brigade Training School.

The Indian contingent to the World Jamboree in France this August will consist of 175 Scouts from different parts of India.



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## A Ship as a Shop

BRITAIN has opened a shop on a ship in South America. At the great ports, Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo, and Buenos Aires, the ship Saint Merriel is now showing what Britain can make and what wonderful values she offers for South America. The ship left England equipped with samples of British manufactures, and, unlike samples shown at exhibitions in this country, there is reasonable hope of the buyer getting what he wants without delay.

There is one big reason behind this display of our goods in South America, and that is food. From the Argentine Britain expects vast quantities of meat, and

from Brazil nuts and coffee. All over the Argentine Britain has her experts watching the markets and making big purchases of food for British homes. But in return South America wants what Britain is able to make. We cannot get our food without goods to pay for it in exchange. So the shop on the ship is vital to our life and health. The ship's cinema shows British films dealing with British life and industry, and in particular British agriculture.

Britain is still South America's greatest customer, but to be a welcome customer nowadays you must also be a seller—hence the shop on the ship.

## English Oaks Abroad

THE three English oaks sent last month across the Atlantic, and on to Los Angeles, should by this time be rooted and beginning a career to last several centuries, let us hope, in a new setting.

The oaks, with other trees from the 51 countries that competed, are to grace the Avenue of Friendship in the park where, 15 years ago, the Olympic Games were held.

British oaks are, of course, widely distributed throughout the world. With other trees from Britain, they flourish at Canberra, the Australian capital; and among other places favoured are Gibraltar, with an oak from Windsor Park; Verdun, Rheims, and other war-scourged cities on the Continent, to which British acorns were sent between the two world conflicts.

## BRITAIN'S FAMOUS SHEEP

BRITAIN'S sheep are known and prized everywhere for their excellence, and 54 pedigree sheep and 35 lambs of the Romney Marsh, Dorset, and Suffolk breeds have been flown from Croydon to Italy by Unrra to be used for breeding purposes.

Although Britain lost some 4,000,000 sheep during the prolonged cold weather last winter, the pedigree sheep suffered little, except for a few of the hill breeds, so we can spare some of our famous sheep to improve the flocks of other nations.

## AN OLD WARRIOR TO FLY AGAIN

SOME of the holiday visitors to Blackpool during July will rub their eyes in astonishment should they gaze skywards and see, flying among speedy jet fighters and heavy bombers, a dilapidated old plane.

But the sea air will not be playing tricks with their eyes, for a Blériot airplane built in 1910, and similar to the one that first crossed the Channel, is to take part in three flying displays at the air pageant which begins on July 2.

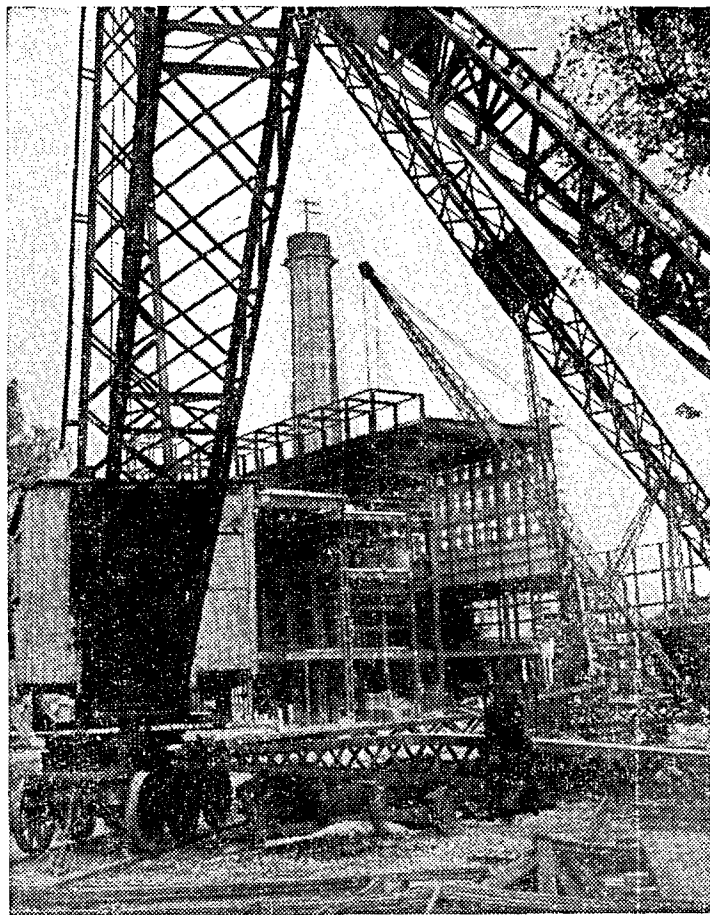
The old warrior will only take to the air if the weather is calm, for any bumpiness is likely to cause damage.

## Fatal Road Play

THOUGH the number of children, 84, killed on the roads last April is still tragically high, it is a little lower than in April 1946, when 101 children were killed. It is sad to record, however, that three of the children died as a result of stealing rides on vehicles; and five others, all under seven, were killed while playing round stationary vehicles. Young children must be firmly warned against these dangerous practices.

The total number of people killed on the roads in April was 390, which was one more than April last year. The kerb drill of grown-ups still seems shamefully bad, for 130 adult pedestrians were killed in April, 32 more than in the previous April.

It is up to our young people to give the nation a lead in road sense.



## Riverside Power Station

While controversy rages over the proposed power station opposite St Paul's, another station rises on the banks of the Thames at Kingston. Our picture of the girders and tall chimney gives a striking impression of its size.

## Looking Out For Colorado Beetles

THERE is this summer a renewed threat to Britain's potato crops from the brightly-coloured Colorado Beetle, the half-inch-long ravager that feeds on potato haulm—the part which grows above the ground—and thus destroys the plant. Several of the beetles have been discovered here, having arrived as very unwelcome stowaways on ships from the Continent.

Not long ago one was found on the deck of a ship crossing from Boulogne, one was found near Banbury, another at Chatham, another at Watford. The danger is that they may establish themselves here and breed.

Fortunately the beetle can be easily distinguished. It has lengthwise black stripes and spots on a yellow background. It is the duty of all of us to keep a sharp look-out for this destroyer, catch it if we see it, and in any case report it to the police.

## WHERE HISTORY WAS MADE

DURING the war, for the first time in history, foreign courts were set up in Britain, where seafaring men belonging to Belgium, the Netherlands, Poland, Greece, and Norway were tried for certain offences by judges of their own country.

These foreign courts sat at the Middlesex Guildhall, Westminster, and, to record the historic event, three illuminated panels have been placed in the Council Chamber. They were unveiled by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Jowitt, who referred to the mutual interdependence and comradeship of these Allied countries in the fight for the freedom of the world.

## Herring Margarine

HERRINGS caught this season but not required in the normal market are to be turned into oil and meal by a special process. In announcing this, not long ago, the Minister of Food said he hoped that this year we could produce about 1000 tons of oil for margarine by this means.

The meal produced from herrings is a valuable protein food for animals, and it is hoped that about 2000 tons of meal will be obtained this year.

## BUSY SCOTLAND

AN eighth of the total British output of coal comes from Scotland. Scottish workers make over a third of Britain's new ships, nearly a half of her steam locomotives (constructed by private builders), three-quarters of her oat products, and nearly all her sewing machines. The whole of the British jute production comes from Scotland.

These and many other facts relating to Scottish industries and employment are set out in a White Paper published recently.

## Where the Romans Bathed

THE discovery of the foundations of an ancient Roman bath house at Farnham, Surrey, is the first ever made in this part of Surrey. It was built of the local sandstone about A.D. 300. There were seven rooms with flues for conducting the heat from two furnaces. The stokehold has been discovered and the floor of the plunge bath. A part of the lead waste pipe was still in position.

In Canterbury, too, a Roman building that was used for baths has been discovered. It was built about the end of the second century and reorganised in the

## Appetite on Wings

A LOITERER by a London lake the other day kept watch on a dragon-fly hawking in the sunny air over the water. Its hunt was profitable, yielding one little winged insect after another, so that one could not but marvel at the creature's hunger.

An expert observer has found that a dragon-fly will catch and eat 40 flies in the course of two hours. That suggests a weight matching its own; and such a thing is not impossible, for insect appetite and rate of digestion are among the wonders of nature. A full-grown silkworm caterpillar can daily devour its own weight of mulberry leaves, and to equal this feat a man would have to eat something like 140 lbs of food between getting up in the morning and going to bed at night.

Truly, there are no appetites more ravenous or persistent than the appetite that is borne on wings or on many crawling feet.

## STRAWBERRY TEA

AFTERNOON tea with some fine, ripe strawberries is one of the real joys of English summer life. But in olden days, so chroniclers tell, another kind of strawberry tea was very popular. It was a "tea" to drink, made by pouring boiling water on wild-strawberry leaves. Sometimes woodruff, the leaves of which have an exquisite scent, were added.

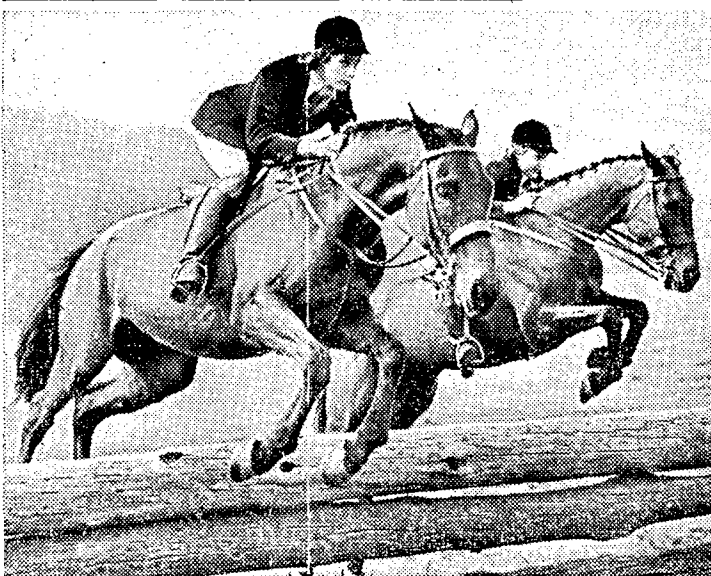
Strawberry leaves were also added to cooling drinks in bygone days as well as to the bath water of people suffering from "greivous aches and paynes of the hyppes." The juice of wild strawberries was used as a complexion wash.

## A Long Walk—There and Back

FOR the first time since 1937 30 competitors will leave London on Friday evening, on what is probably the longest and hardest race of its kind in the world. It is London to Brighton and back walking race, a distance of 104 miles.

The competitors will walk throughout the night, arrive at Brighton in the early hours of the morning and turn straight back. The record, made in 1926, is 18 hours 5 seconds.

This race, incidentally, is one of the few occasions on which walkers can qualify to join the select band of Centurions, an exclusive club, whose members have walked more than 100 miles in 24 hours.



OVER!

Two young American riders taking a fence in fine style in Pennsylvania.





### Visitors From Holland

Over from Holland to see how Britain runs her holiday camps are two Dutch families. In this picture, British twins on holiday at Clacton are keeping their young Dutch friends entertained.

## YOUNG ACTORS IN AUSTRALIA'S BUSH

THE new children's film, *Bush Christmas*, which was released to the Children's Cinema Clubs last Saturday, is a story of five children's adventures in the Australian bush, trailing the horse thieves who stole their father's favourite mare and colt.

In the film story, Helen and her brothers John and "Snow"—the youngest—are the children of an Australian farmer; Michael is an English boy evacuee who lives with them; and Neza is an Aboriginal boy. Neza was chosen from 500 Aboriginal boys, and this was the first time he had lived with white people. He turned out to be a bright boy.

It took 16 weeks to make the film, and every day when they were not acting, the children, who were all under 14, took lessons with a schoolmistress who accompanied the party. Neza also took lessons with his young white friends, and afterwards the Director of Native

Affairs said he had improved wonderfully in his schoolwork. A school examination at the end of the film-making expedition showed that none of the children had suffered any educational setback.

The whole film was taken amid the wild Blue Mountains of New South Wales, and the exciting scenes are accompanied by the bird and animal noises of the wilderness—the call notes of cicadas, crickets, and bullfrogs, the mournful howl of the dingo and the eerie cry of the mopoke owl, the dawn chorus of Australian birds, including the bell-bird and, of course, the laughing jackass, who mocks at the children when they are lost in the mountains and are reduced to eating roast snake for their Christmas dinner.

The film has been produced for Children's Entertainment Films, G-B Instructional Limited, and lasts 80 minutes.

## Modern Stone-Age in East Africa

AFRICANS in Kenya are giving up their thatch and mud huts in favour of stone-built houses. In the past, primitive conditions prevailed and it was easy to use materials which were close to hand, mud and wattle; also, there were few, if any, workmen who knew any other method of building.

Today the circumstances are different—men have returned from the Forces. There were 250,000 East Africans in the Army, and many of these men took the training in trade and craftsmanship provided by the Army authorities. On their return from the Forces there is a desire for a better way of living and the knowledge with which to carry it out.

In East Africa there is an abundance of soft volcanic rock, easy to excavate. A pleasing grey in colour, it is a rock which once exposed to the air hardens and in time forms good weather-resisting walls. From the forests a variety of timber is obtained,

and the only materials which have to come from outside the territory are glass and cement and metal fittings.

The finished houses are simple, neat, and clean; and this means a step in the right direction, for in better living conditions is bred a healthier family, and good health is the foundation on which to build the education and discipline so necessary to the well-being of a nation.

### A HOUSE IN SUSSEX

BREDE PLACE (near Rye in Sussex), which was once described by Sir Edwin Lutyens as the most interesting inhabited house in England, was recently sold after being for 250 years in the possession of the same family, the Frewens.

Brede Place was first built of stone in the 14th century as a manor house, and additions were made to it in the time of Queen Elizabeth. In the house is a small chapel with a gallery.

## Little Portraits

SOME beautiful examples of the works of Nicholas Hilliard, the greatest of all English miniaturists, and of his pupil Isaac Oliver, are on view in a Loan Exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum during this month and July.

Hilliard studied the work of Hans Holbein, and acquired much of the neatness, if not the power, of that superb painter. In his portraits the jewels and ornaments are expressed in lines incredibly slender, and even the hairs of the head and beard can almost be counted.

Hilliard, who was born at Exeter in 1547, and died in 1619, was long "drawer" as he said, "of Her Majesty's pictures (to my great credit and comfort)," and Queen Elizabeth sat to him several times. He also painted an exquisite miniature of Mary Queen of Scots.

The exhibition includes the beautiful miniature of his young wife.

His pupil Oliver was born in 1556, and died in 1617. He, too, worked for the most famous people of his time, painting portraits of Elizabeth, Mary Queen of Scots, Prince Henry, and Ben Jonson.

In this exhibition is Oliver's miniature of James I, which was used as a model by both Rubens and Van Dyck in their full-length canvases of that monarch, while the most attractive miniature of all is his full-length portrait of Sir Philip Sidney as a youth, seated under the greenwood tree.

### Footwear as Headwear



A native woman of Bechuanaland sets a new fashion as she carries her spare shoes in a coal scuttle on her head.

### A Flying Lifeboat

MUCH attention has been focused on experiments being carried out in America with a "flying lifeboat." This is a glider with detachable wings and tail unit, and a seaworthy hull.

In the event of an aeroplane crashing into the sea the glider would be towed to the scene of the crash, released from the towing aircraft, and piloted down to land near the wreck. Once the glider is safely on the water the wings and tail are detached, a small petrol engine at the rear is started, and she is then able to make her way to the nearest land or to other ships.

## The Editor's Table

### COURTESY COUNTS

LONDON'S streets are easier to move in now that cars only stop where the rules permit them and pedestrians are taking the trouble to look for crossing places instead of wandering anyhow across busy streets. London's traffic is moving more swiftly and safely because people are taking trouble to be courteous.

Common courtesies are growing in our land, and we can hail them as a sign of growing understanding between ordinary people: for courtesy proceeds naturally from believing that the other man has his place in the world as well as yourself, and that to be considerate of him is the first mark not only of a gentleman but of the Grace of God. That is Mr Hilaire Belloc's fragrant view of courtesy:

*... it is much less  
Than courage of heart or holiness;  
Yet in my walks it seems to me  
That the Grace of God is in  
Courtesy.*

IN these days of hurry and scurry it is easy to dismiss any courtesy as a mere relic of a more leisured age; but that is a wrong view of life, and to restore courtesy to its proper place is one of the big tasks of our generation.

Courtesy has its place in the little acts of daily life. That is why London's buses and trains carry appeals to everyone to be courteous. Courtesy promotes service, say the little notices. And so it does. The wheels of transport turn more easily and more safely when courtesy is the watchword of all who travel. Courtesy counts, too, in the big fight our nation is now waging to maintain its position amongst the world of nations. If everyone begins to remember the other man, his family, his home, his right to live his own life, then we shall win that fight.

TENNYSON said, "The greater man, the greater courtesy." But there is no reason why all of us lesser men should not exercise the great courtesies; nothing would make the life of the world sweeter and happier. Nevertheless, it is the small courtesies which oil the wheels of life. In the words of the American poet, James T. Fields:

*How sweet and gracious, even in  
common speech,  
Is that fine sense which men call  
Courtesy!  
Wholesome as air and genial as  
the light,  
Welcome in every clime as breath  
of flowers,  
It transmutes aliens into trusting  
friends,  
And gives its owner passport round  
the globe.*

### JUST AN IDEA

As John Locke wrote, Education begins the gentleman, but reading, good company, and reflection must finish him.

## Dominion Sta

THE most encouraging thing in the new plan for India is the immediate grant of Dominion Status to the two new States, Hindustan and Pakistan, into which British India will be most probably divided. The transfer by Britain of the new powers, which embrace all the freedoms of independent nationhood, is to be enacted by Parliament this summer, and therefore full responsibility will be handed over to the Indians much sooner than was promised.

Not only have the people of India themselves welcomed their new position in the British Com-

### School and Life

THE first report of the Central Advisory Council for Education challenges the nation to face the two great obstacles to making a reality of the 1944 Education Act. These obstacles are: lack of proper school buildings and lack of teachers.

The report, called *School and Life* (Stationery Office, 2s 6d), says, among many other things: "There can be no substantial advance in education until the number of pupils per teacher has been reduced and unhealthy and unsuitable buildings have been replaced . . . Many schools now classified as Secondary Schools are such in name only and fall far short of requirements in staffing, premises, and equipment."

This report should startle us into realising the great effort still needed if we are to secure that educational advance without which Britain cannot remain a great and prosperous nation.

### WINGED BLOSSOMS

HERE are sweet peas on tip-toe for a flight,  
With wings of gentle flush o'er delicate white;  
And taper fingers catching at all things,  
To bind them all about with tiny rings.

Keats

## Under the E

ONLY half the strawberries will be taken for jam-making this year. So we shan't have any whole fruit jam.

YELLOW bands on lamp-posts indicate No Waiting streets in London. Hope they all play the same tune.

A LONDON councillor says the Government should build a school before the new power station. It wouldn't hide it.



BRIGHTON Aquarium is now open. The fish are in their element.

LINOLEUM is going up. So less of it will go down.



wspaper

June 21, 1947

## tus For India

monwealth of Nations, but the Dominions with one accord have acclaimed it, promising to their new fellow-states every possible help.

As General Smuts has said, too, "In these stormy, troublous times it must be a matter of no small importance to India that she starts her career within the grand community of the Commonwealth, with all the stability and prestige that that fact implies."

We hope, with General Smuts, that the States of India will long remain fellow-members of that grand community.

## THIS ENGLAND

THE hope that we may yet preserve the dwindling beauty of our Island was expressed by the Archbishop of York when, in the House of Lords recently, he welcomed the Town and Country Planning Bill.

The beauty of the countryside has been steadily damaged in past years, he said, and went on: "The use of railway trucks as summer dwellings on the tops of cliffs, unsightly bungalows, great factories which squat like ugly toads in some beautiful valleys, and contaminated rivers are some examples of practices which are being continued. Month by month we are losing what is most beautiful in our country and in many of our villages."

The Archbishop's grave words bring home to us the urgent necessity to make full use of the new measure and thus to stop the uglification of "This precious stone set in the silver sea."

## Sunlight

I SAT alone, alone within the world of golden light,  
Gleaming rays, warming golden rays shone round me,  
Tiny seraphs bright that spread their wings,  
Paused—and then took flight.  
Pamela Partridge

## ditor's Table

PETER PUCK  
WANTS TO KNOW

If indoor slippers  
are worn out



AT a meeting in a Hertfordshire village only the speaker turned up. He was beside himself.

SHORTER hours are inevitable, says the President of the T.U.C. Perhaps the minutes will be longer.

SOME lending libraries go round to the villages in vans. They consist of moving stories.

A LADY M.P. is said to be not a good dancer. But she knows how to mind her steps.

SOME children are so fond of reading they don't get enough exercise. But if the book is dull they skip.

## THINGS SAID

IF by our actions we gain the respect and admiration of the Japanese, they may well become powerful friends and a great democratic force for peace.

Commander of U.S. 8th Army

HAVING decided what you want to do, do it—and don't wobble.

Field-Marshal Montgomery

LET us bury the past and forget all bitterness and re-creation.

Pandit Nehru

THE influence of Shakespeare's works is greater today than at any time in the last 100 years or more.

Lord Iliffe

WHATEVER may befall a man in later life, however distant his duties and his interests may lead him, nothing can equal honour done to him in the place of his birth.

Viscount Kemsley

## Barring the Colour Bar

IT is good news that coloured men of British nationality, resident in this country, will in future be able to join the Royal Navy and the Army on the same conditions that they join the R.A.F.

During the war coloured men could join the R.A.F. with the same rates of pay and pensions as other recruits. But in the Army, except for a few special concessions, coloured men could not join British regiments, and in the Navy coloured recruits were only accepted for training for the Indian and Chinese Navies.

Racial prejudice is a hateful thing and contrary to the fundamental spirit of the great family of peoples who make up the British Commonwealth.

## BILL OF FARE

THE Minister of Education, Mr. George Tomlinson, has been lamenting an old custom which has worried many other earnest people in the past—hotel menus written in French.

We fear he is wasting his breath, for the Hôtel Splendide will continue to serve boeuf roti while Fred's Café offers the customers roast beef. Of course, Ye Olde Englyshe Choppe House in France advertises rosbif.

No doubt a joint by any other name would taste as sweet, but the fact is that British folks are ceasing to care overmuch about the labels on their food, and merely ask for a square meal at fairly regular intervals.

## Morning Peace

ONE morning, oh! so early, my beloved, my beloved,  
All the birds were singing blithely, as if never they would cease;

'Twas a thrush sang in my garden, "Hear the story, hear the story!"

And the lark sang, "Give us glory!"

And the dove said, "Give us peace!"  
Jean Ingelow

## An Exhibition of Antiques

Few Britishers can resist the appeal of an antique shop, and that is perhaps why London is still the antique centre of the world. From America and other overseas countries collectors and buyers have come to visit the Antique Dealers' Fair and Exhibition, the first to be held here since 1938, at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London, which is open until June 27.

An antique is defined as a work of art or craftsmanship made prior to 1830, and thousands of beautiful and curious examples of such work are displayed at the Fair. There is furniture by such famous designers as Chippendale, Hepplewhite, and Sheraton; there are old prints and pictures, jewellery, silver, porcelain and pottery, clocks, glassware, and many other objects belonging to the days before machines, when everything for use or admiration had to be the product of some craftsman's or artist's skill—or very often a combination of both.

Nearly 100 exhibitors have stands at the Fair. There are loans by the Royal Family. The value of all the items displayed is estimated at something between £3,000,000 and £4,000,000.

The cost of admission is 3s 6d, which includes an illustrated handbook, and a part of the takings is to be given to the Institute of Ray Therapy.

## FURNITURE FROM VINE

WAR has taught many a nation to be more resourceful.

Australia used to import bamboo and cane for the manufacture of furniture. When war came, however, these imports ceased.

A serving soldier in North Australia rediscovered the lya-vine cane, which grows in abundance in the tropical forests of Australia, and sent samples to some furniture-makers down south. It was found to be admirably suited for making chairs, tables, settees, and other pieces; and so a regular industry in lya-vine furniture developed.

This vine is particularly difficult to harvest because of its enormous prickles, its great height, and the denseness of the undergrowth. Nor is hauling it away an easy undertaking. Only experienced bushmen are capable of tackling properly these giants of the Australian forests.

## THE PRISONER'S SOLACE

How does a man of outstanding abilities occupy his time when in prison? It is a great test of character.

General Sir Philip Neame has told, in his recently-published autobiography (*Playing with Strife*, Harrap, 15s), how he wrote almost the whole of his book while a prisoner-of-war in Italy. Partly owing to the encouragement of the friend who was his fellow-prisoner, and partly to the necessity for mental employment, he compiled the absorbing story of his adventurous life while a prisoner in the Castello di Vincigliata, near Florence.

He compiled it entirely from memory, working for four to five hours every day, and successfully concealing his manuscript from his Italian gaolers in his dungeon-like room. On his escape he took his work with him, eventually leaving it concealed in a tomb in an Apennine monastery, where the loyalty of the monks kept it from prying Germans until it was handed over to the British authorities.

Other heroes before Sir Philip Neame have similarly occupied their long hours when shut off from the world "in durance vile."

## Raleigh the Historian

Sir Walter Raleigh spent many years of his captivity in the Tower of London on the writing of his *History of the World*. Cervantes, who had been for five years a captive of the Barbary pirates, became a prisoner afterwards of his own government, and began the writing of *Don Quixote* while in Seville gaol. John Bunyan, during the religious persecutions of the 17th century, spent 12 years as a prisoner, during which time he wrote nine books, including *Grace Abounding*. During a

later six months' imprisonment he began *Pilgrim's Progress*, with the cell for his writing-room.

Nevertheless, occupations of this consoling character have been for the few. In old European prisons, notably the grim Bastille of Paris, prisoners languished for years, with hands and minds unoccupied. The Bastille was torn down in 1789, but the tyranny of the prison system lasted on into the time of Napoleon, and involved, among others, a French financier and diplomat named Ouyard, whom that despot hated, and kept in solitary confinement for four years.

## Picking Up Pins

Realising that he must have occupation or lose his reason, Ouyard induced his gaoler to procure him a vast quantity of pins. Having laboriously counted these and written down the total, he scattered them on the floor of his dungeon, and then began picking them up again, keeping a careful record until all were collected. Then he threw them down again, and regathered them. So the weary task continued, scattering to find, finding to scatter.

After the battle of Waterloo, Ouyard told some English friends that sometimes the search for the last pin about every nook and cranny of his cell occupied him for several days together, and afforded his mind the exercise it required for the preservation of his sanity. The throwing-down and picking-up of the pins again and again and again, formed, he said, his sole solace and occupation.

## Bird-Watchers Gather in Scotland

ON Friday, June 20, students of bird life from many countries will meet in Edinburgh for the first International Conference of Ornithologists (students of bird-life) ever held in Britain. It has been organised by the British Ornithological Union and the Scottish Ornithological Club. Among the 300 delegates will be men and women from America, Sweden, Holland, France, Denmark, and Norway.

When the Conference closes on June 23 the delegates from overseas countries will tour parts of Scotland to observe bird life, and they will keep a sharp lookout for species of birds only found

in Scotland. Some of the delegates have come 3000 miles to see these birds, which are the Scottish Crested Tit, the Scottish Crossbill, and the Scottish Ptarmigan. If the ornithologists find time to visit the Shetlands they will see rare forms of starlings and wrens. In the Hebridean Islands they will see particular forms of stonechats, hedge sparrows, and wrens. On lonely St Kilda Island sweet little Jenny Wren takes a form markedly different from her cousins in lesser countries.

The birds of Scotland may well feel: "Here's tae us, wha's like us?"



THIS ENGLAND

A cricket match on the village green at Brockham, near Dorking, Surrey



## The Game of Bat-and-Trap

CANTERBURY, headquarters of Kent cricket, is also the centre of a quaint game called Bat-and-Trap. It is, in fact, one of the few places where this game is still played.

The game dates back to the days when pilgrims flocked from all parts of Britain to Canterbury, and resembles cricket; but it does not call for a big ground and is played mostly on quiet greens behind some of the old-world inns to be found in and around the cathedral city.

The bats are made of teak and have paddle-like blades roughly 5½ inches by 8½ inches. The ball, 2½ inches in diameter, is of solid rubber. The trap is a piece of wood fitted with a steel spring, and attached to it is a small bullseye target roughly the size of the ball.

The batsman taps the spring trap and the ball is shot into the air and hit with the bat towards two posts, fourteen feet apart, at the other end of the pitch, which is the same length as a cricket pitch.

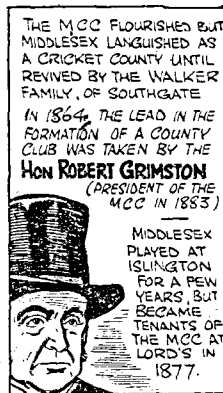
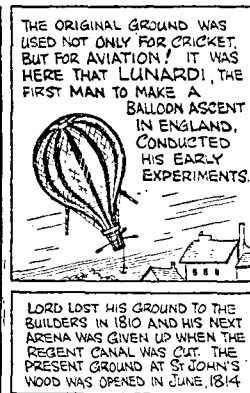
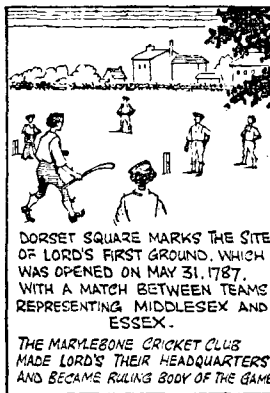
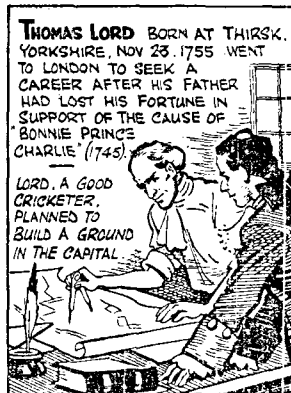
If the ball does not pass between the posts the batsman is out; if it does, one of the opposing team, the bowlers, picks up the ball and throws it at the flap of the trap. If he knocks it down the bowling side score one run, but a failure means a run to the batsman's side.

There are no fieldsmen, no boundaries, and no actual running to give Bat-and-Trap a closer resemblance to cricket. Nevertheless, the game has its thrills, and its popularity in Canterbury is such that over 600 players are now registered with the local league association.

## CHURCH OF ENGLAND YOUTH

PRINCESS ELIZABETH has become the President of the Church of England Youth Council. She hopes to attend a conference in August, when young people from Australia, New Zealand, Canada, British West Africa, and other parts of the Anglican Communion will, at Canterbury, meet young people representing the Youth organisations of the Church of England.

## Famous Cricket Counties



The second South Africa v England Test-Match begins at Lord's on June 21

## Middlesex

## Mary Ann's Cottage

WHILE examining a number of old legal papers, a C N correspondent came upon an interesting document recalling a kindly practice of days gone by.

In some rural districts whenever misfortune befell a parishioner, someone in the know would prepare what was known as a "brief"—a statement setting out short particulars of the trouble and appealing to the generosity of the more fortunate. Door by door, the "brief" would be taken around the parish, and cottager, farmer, and squire alike would dip their hands into their pockets.

The "brief" which has just come to light states: "Mary Ann, a widow, appeals to the kindness of her neighbours for help under the following circumstances: She lives in her own cottage which has fallen into such a state of dilapidation that it is no longer safe to inhabit it. But being possessed of no other property besides the said cottage and its contents, she is without any means of executing the necessary repairs, the cost of which is estimated at £15."

Then follow the signatures of those who gave. The squire headed the list with £2 and there were many who sacrificed hard-earned pence towards that £15 to make the widow's cottage safe.

That was 69 years ago, but the cottage, now over a century old, is still standing and still habitable, thanks to those kind folk who had something to give, and gave.

## LONDON HOT-POT

YOUNGSTERS who have their mid-day meals at school will not be able to complain that their lunches are cold. The LCC intends to put 50 specially-designed motor-vans into service for transporting meals from the cooking centres to the schools.

The vans can carry between 600 and 700 dinners, and each van's round is so arranged that the meals can be served piping hot within thirty minutes of having been put into the insulated containers at the central kitchen.

## ATTRACTIVE NEW BABIES AT REGENT'S PARK

By the C N Zoo Correspondent

THIS is the "baby season" at the London Zoo, and, because the Gardens are now fully stocked again, more "nurseries" are being established than for some years past. Let me, therefore, introduce you this week to a few of the more important infants.

Firstly, meet baby Keino. Keino, named after the native place of his parents, is a little reindeer only ten inches high (imagine it), and you can see him with his parents, Kauto and Alta, at the cattle sheds. A most attractive baby he is.

As a rule, keepers know when a Zoo baby is due to be born; but in this case they did not. Alta took them by surprise. It was not until the men came on duty the other morning that they found the baby reindeer. And, since the father, Kauto, was still in the stall, they hurriedly removed him to another near by, lest Alta, fearing for her baby's safety (some fathers are so clumsy!) might attack him.

Keino is a very welcome arrival, because no baby reindeer has been born in the Gardens for over ten years. Indeed, since the war, the menagerie has not had any of these animals in residence at all, and it was not until last Christmas, when General Dahl, Commander of the Norwegian Army of the North, sent Kauto

and Alta over here in the care of a Laplander, that reindeer were once again represented at Regent's Park.

Next in importance are the twins, Dot and Carrie. Dot and Carrie are baby Crested Porcupines, offspring of a pair of these animals brought home from East Africa last autumn by the Zoo's well-known collector-curator, Mr C. S. Webb.

Officially, the twins, who are in the rodent house, are on exhibition as I write. The job, however, is to see them. They are the most jealously-guarded infants in the Gardens and spend

their time huddling in a corner of their den, shielded from the public gaze by their three-foot-long parents, who allow only the keeper to enter their enclosure. If you or I tried to do so the animals would immediately throw up a formidable array of quills and rattle them so furiously that we should, I think, be only too glad to make our departure without troubling to interview their babies!

Like all baby porcupines, Dot and Carrie were born with their "spines" soft and flexible. Not for several weeks yet will they harden. Then, these baby porcupines will be about as pleasant to handle as a hedgehog or a packet of pins!

Young family Number Three you can meet at the reptile house. It is a "nursery" of six baby snakes born to a two-foot-long Russell's sand-broa from India. It is hard to imagine baby snakes could be "pretty," but these infants, none more than six inches long, certainly have some claim to "looks," for their soft shiny skins are beautifully patterned.

Although so young, the snakes are already adept at burrowing in the sand—a habit which gives the species its name. And, like their parents, of course, they are without poison fangs and are therefore quite harmless. C. H.

## The Guide

ALTHOUGH he has the reputation of being the most fluent and capable guide Warwick Castle has ever had, Mr T. Miller, Londoner and ex-sailor, has never seen the castle. More than three years ago his ship struck a mine and was blown to pieces. Mr Miller lost his sight and both of his arms. He entered St Dunstan's and there studied and memorised every detail of the architecture.

Mr Miller says that "Somehow, being blind, you acquire a vision of a place more vivid than if you actually saw it. That is how I feel about Warwick Castle."

## LORNA DOONE—R. D. Blackmore's Famous Romance of Exmoor, Told in Pictures



Lorna Doone recognised John Ridd and took him to her little secret grotto. She told him how unhappy she was, living with these murderous Doones. She could not remember her mother and father, but was told she was the child of old Sir Ensor Doone's eldest son. She would have run away from this valley of outlaws but that she was attached to aged Sir Ensor, her only friend.



John fell deeply in love with Lorna, and he consulted an old "wise-woman" of Exmoor. "Have nought to do with the Doones who slew thy father," Mother Meldrum warned. John was troubled in his mind, but, again risking death at the hands of the Doones, he met Lorna at her grotto, and she told him she loved him too.



After a time Lorna came no more to their meeting-place. While John waited, hiding, he saw ferocious Carver Doone approaching. This was the villain who intended to marry Lorna. John feared they now suspected Lorna and had shut her up. Boldly he resolved to enter the Valley by the fortified Doone-gate, his only way of finding out what had happened to her.



The Doone-gate was a tunnel through solid rock. Into this, next night, John crept cautiously. It was pitch dark inside and he groped his way along the tunnel wall. Then he saw a dim light ahead and stealthily edged towards it. Peeping round a curve he saw two huge Doone sentries, drinking and gaming. They had their loaded muskets close at hand. John had no weapon.

Can John pass these sentries and find Lorna? See next week's instalment



The Children's Newspaper, June 21, 1947

## THE FAME OF A LITTLE VILLAGE IN BAVARIA

It is good news that the famous Oberammergau Passion Play is to be revived. The performance will take place again in 1950, but already, it is reported, rehearsals for the great event have begun. Thousands of people will go to witness it.

Oberammergau is a village in the Ammer valley in Upper Bavaria. In 1633 a plague fell on the surrounding countryside and, at the end of it, the villagers vowed to present every tenth year, as an act of devotion, a living representation of the Passion, or last days and sufferings of Christ.

It is thought that the monks of the Ettal monastery farther up the valley wrote the first text of the play, but it has since been remodelled and music for it was composed by Rochus Dedler, the parish schoolmaster, in 1814.

This unique Passion Play presents the life of Christ in a series of scenes, together with appropriate tableaux from the Old Testament.

Performances, which last about nine hours, used to be given in front of the church; but for many years they have been presented in front of a covered auditorium with seats for 4000 people, the stage being open and

set off by a magnificent background of wooded hills.

Nearly 1000 actors are required, and the villagers of Oberammergau play most of the parts. Certain principal roles are handed down in the same family from generation to generation, while for others as much regard is paid to the actor's moral character as to his dramatic ability. To play the part of Christ is the ambition of every man in Oberammergau, and is regarded as one of the greatest honours it is possible to attain.

Although the Oberammergau Passion Play is not in itself the same as the Mystery Plays of the Middle Ages, it helps us to realise what they were like. These simple Bavarian villagers (whose skilful woodcarving is universally famous) act their parts with the same deep, religious feeling as our own ancestors must have done centuries ago at such places as Chester and York.

## Hobby-Helps to History

If you are keen on painting or history you will probably be interested in two helpful hobbies, Heraldry and Genealogy. A society exists to help schoolboys over twelve in these subjects.

Genealogy only means finding out the history of your own family. You may find that your family were once wealthy lords, or you may find that they were quite humble people; but whatever they were it is very fascinating to try to learn all about them, and this is not such a difficult matter as it may seem.

Heraldry is the study of the pictures which were painted on knights' shields. In the old days knights and lords had such things as lions, birds, or mere de-

signs painted in bright colours on their shields, or sometimes on their surcoats. For this reason these designs have come to be known as Coats of Arms, or just "Arms." Each family had its own particular design, which has passed down from father to son even to the present day.

If you would like to know how to draw these shields correctly and learn some of the rules of Heraldry, or if you would like to learn how to trace your family history, and meet other boys who are interested in the same things, then write to Mr J. P. Brooke Little, The Society of Heraldic Antiquaries, 21, East Knoyle, Wiltshire, and he will tell you more about the society.

## An Engineer is Wanted

THE Bishop of Nyasaland, whose diocese includes Lake Nyasa, one of the largest inland seas in the world, wants an engineer for his steamer, the Chauncy Maples. Without the regular visits of the steamer the churches and mission stations which dot the shores of Lake Nyasa would be without stores, food, books, and visitors.

For nine years the present engineer has been at his job, and he cannot get his leave, which is four years overdue, unless a new man volunteers from England. So the bishop is asking for a ship's engineer willing to serve on a missionary basis. It may be that someone who has braved a number of ocean-going voyages would like a slightly quieter job in Lake Nyasa, but he must be prepared for storms and sudden squalls.

The Chauncy Maples is a steam-driven vessel of some 200 tons, with a European captain and a crew of 36 Africans. She gets her name from the second Bishop of Nyasaland.

## Round the Museums

### TUDOR HOT-PLATE

ALTHOUGH some may envy the owner of this succulent-looking chop, very few would be envious of the owner who had to



keep it warm on this hollow pewter plate. In Tudor days, hot water was poured into the hole on the edge of the plate, and the cooked food was placed on the plate until required. It is in Strangers' Hall, Norwich.

## Six Comets Now in the Sky

SIX comets are now speeding across the Heavens, but owing to their faintness they cannot be seen without a powerful telescope and, five of them, because they are receding from us, are not likely to appear any brighter. None, unfortunately, are well placed for observation.

One, named Comet Jones after its recent discoverer, is now in the constellation of Andromeda and is speeding northward; this is about 300 million miles away.

Another, about 60 million miles away, is a visitor that was expected, the Comet Grigg-Skjellerup. It returns every five years and is now speeding through Pegasus in a north-westerly direction toward Cygnus.

### Discovered in Africa

The Comet Rondonina-Bester, discovered in South Africa in April, has been travelling north from the Southern Heavens through Cetus. It is now in Aries and about 130 million miles away.

Our fourth receding comet, discovered by Mr M. J. Bester, is now in Perseus and now some 300 million miles away; while the fifth, a very small one known as the Comet Becvar, is speeding south and is now at a low altitude near the south-west horizon in the early evening.

The sixth comet appears to be approaching us. It, too, was discovered by Mr M. J. Bester at Bloemfontein in South Africa, who recently found it in the constellation of Lupus, the Wolf. It is at present, therefore, too far south to be observed in this country, but it is travelling northwards. This comet will be known as "Comet Bester 1947d," and, though at present of only 11th magnitude, it may yet increase, and so, of all six comets now in the Heavens, offers the best promise of being seen with the naked eye.

### Jupiter's Family

These small comets, of which some hundreds are known, constitute "families" with orbits that are inter-planetary; that is, the comets travel between the orbit of some planet and the neighbourhood of the Sun, much the largest number being associated with Jupiter and therefore known as Jupiter's "family of comets." Rarely spectacular, they are chiefly of interest for their regular return at intervals of about five years from Jupiter's locality, and for the problem they provide as to their origin, the evidence generally suggesting that they are composed of material erupted from the Sun and condensed long ages ago into innumerable meteoric particles.

G. F. M.

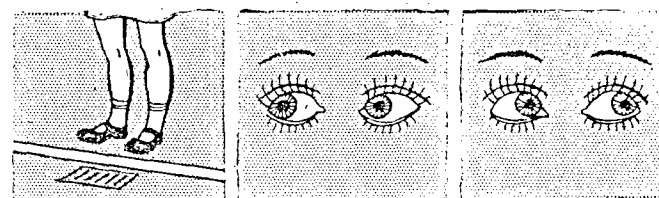
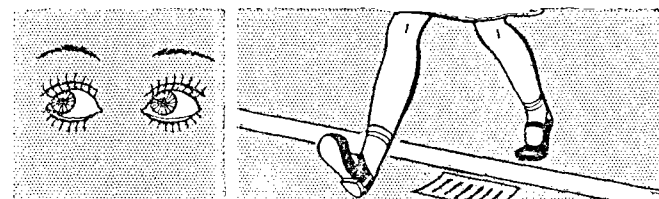
## AROUND THE WORLD IN 7 DAYS

WHEN Jules Verne wrote *Around the World in Eighty Days*, he could little have dreamed that such a journey would be made in seven days three-quarters of a century later. But wonders never cease.

Pan-American Airways have begun a commercial round-the-world air service. The planes will be in the air for about 120 hours in all, and passengers who do not break their journey will be able to complete the circular world trip in a week. The service will be twice a week, and the fare will be £425.

## Learn this simple KERB DRILL

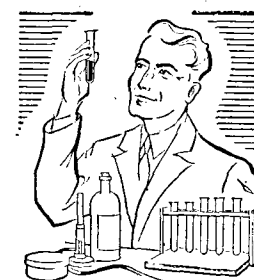
Teach it to the Children — always do it yourself

1 At the kerb  
**HALT**2 Eyes  
**RIGHT**3 Eyes  
**LEFT**4 EYES RIGHT  
AGAIN then if  
the road is clear5 **QUICK MARCH**  
Don't rush —  
cross calmly

**Keep Death  
off the Road**

Issued by the  
Ministry of  
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R2



Exactly adjusted to  
**Baby's needs**

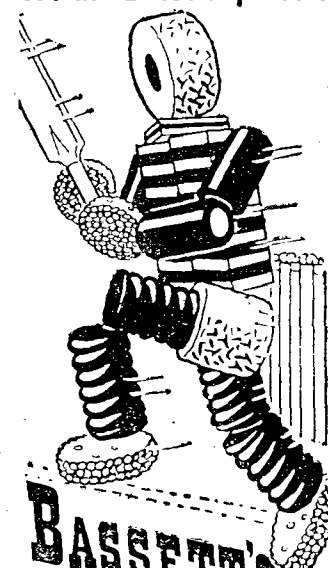
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BY APPOINTED BAKERS

PURITY

DIGESTIBILITY



## THE BRAN TUB

### NO NEED FOR ALARM

A GREAT scientist was giving a lecture to members of a local society.

"My calculations lead me to believe that the end of the world will come in three hundred and fifteen million years."

A little man sitting in the front row jumped up in alarm.

"How many years did you say, sir?"

"Three hundred and fifteen million," replied the scientist.

The little man gave a sigh of relief. "I thought you said fifteen million."

### A Wonderful Tale

You never hear the bee complain,

Nor hear it weep or wail;  
But if it likes it can unfold  
A very painful tail.

### MIXED COLOURS

THE names of six colours have become somewhat mixed. Can you sort out the letters of each phrase (or word), and find them?

OR MOAN  
AS PIE  
NO VILE RIM

MICE RAN  
REPULP  
GO NEAR

Answer next week

### Tongue Twister

GEORGE GRANT'S gaunt ghost grew grotesque, gradually gaining ground.

### IN HIS PLACE

"GUILTY or not guilty?" asked the judge of the Irishman.

"Just as yer honour plazes," replied Paddy. "Shure, it's not for the likes o' me to dictate to yer worship."

### BEDTIME CORNER

#### The Boy Who Got the Post

A MAN was seeing candidates for the post of junior clerk in his office, and many of the boys brought testimonials. The boy who was engaged brought no letters and had a very short interview.

A friend asked the merchant for an explanation.

"Well," said he, "the boy I engaged wiped his feet on the mat as he came in, closed the door quietly, picked up a book I had placed purposely in his way, waited until I spoke, and answered my questions promptly. His hair and clothes were brushed, his shoes were shiny, and his hands and face were clean."

"I think these were the best recommendations he could possibly have brought."

### PRAYER

DEAR LORD, fill my heart with gratefulness for all the beauty of the earth. Make me worthy of the love of those who work and plan that my life here may be happy, and so guide my steps that I may come to Thine everlasting life hereafter. Amen

## Jacko's Unlucky Dip



It was a broiling hot day and Jacko and Chimp had sneaked on to Farmer Giles's land for a dip in his pond. They ignored the trespassing notice and got undressed. Then they found a raft and had a great time diving off—until the farmer suddenly appeared. To complete their discomfort, an angry swan arrived on the scene to protest at the invasion of his domain. Jacko's version of the Swan Lake Ballet as he tried to avoid the swan's attacks was a very lively performance if nothing else.

### FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

A Smart Little Gentleman. In the bank beneath the hedgerow, a tiny red-coated creature about three and a half inches long eyed Don boldly. Don admired the dainty paws, spotless white waistcoat, and big bright eyes. He ventured a little closer, but the small gentleman took fright and vanished into the undergrowth.

"It was a Bank-vole," said Farmer Gray, when told of the little animal. "Bank-voles are less timid than mice, and often appear during the daytime. Of our three species of voles they are easily distinguished by their red coats. They climb well and have the same fondness for berries as the fieldmice."

### Maxim to Memorise

A good conscience is a continual feast.

### CATCH THIS FISH

I AM a fish both neat and clever,  
And in the crystal streams I play;  
If you my head and shoulders sever  
You'll find me out as clear as day.

### The Big Little Elf

MET a little elf-man once,  
Down where the lilies blow;  
I asked him why he was so small,  
And why he did not grow.



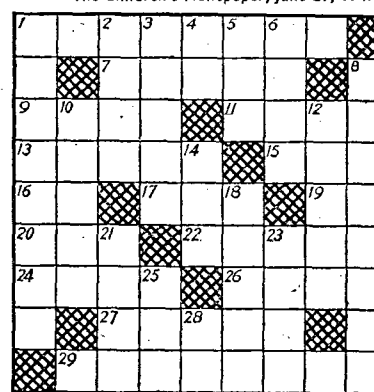
He slightly frowned, and with his eye  
He looked me through and through.  
"I'm quite as big for me," said he,  
"As you are big for you."

## Cross Word Puzzle

Reading Across. 1 One who explains anything. 7 A musical drama. 9 The next is at Lord's. 11 Frequently at the east end of a church. 13 A ridiculous gesture. 15 And so on. 16 Nova Scotia. 17 The summit. 19 Early English. 20 A firearm. 22 Narrow bands of linen. 24 Welsh national emblem. 26 Divides by tearing. 27 Protection. 29 A badge for the arm.

Reading Down. 1 To involve in something complicated. 2 An upright support. 3 An eye. 4 Cold blows this wind. 5 An age. 6 Part of the neck. 8 Having niches or alcoves. 10 To follow in course of time. 12 Ascending sharply. 14 Furry quadruped. 18 Capital of France. 21 Not far distant. 23 Famous for its leaning tower. 25 Parrot which attacks New Zealand sheep. 28. Guineas.

The Children's Newspaper, June 21, 1947



Asterisks indicate abbreviations. Answer next week

### Riddles About Sheep

WHY do white sheep give more wool than black ones?  
Because there are more of them.

When do sheep become stationery (stationary)?  
When they are turned into pens.

Why is someone older than you like a field in which sheep are grazing?  
They are both pasturage (past your age).

### The Lizard Wizard

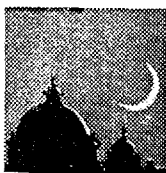
THE lighthouse that stands on the Lizard  
Was visited once by a wizard,  
Who handed the keeper  
A nice carpet-sweeper.  
Then swept off himself in a blizzard.

### LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Hidden Islands  
Minorca, Iceland, Fiji, Borneo, Cuba, and Malta.

### Other Worlds

IN the evening Mercury and Saturn are in the west and Jupiter is in the south. In the morning Venus is low in the south-east. The picture shows the Moon as it may be seen at 10.30 on the night of Saturday, June 21.



## Children's Hour

BBC programmes from Wednesday, June 18, to Tuesday, June 24.

WEDNESDAY, 5.0 Orlando, the Marmalade Cat (Part 6). 5.20 Tate Gallery Paintings—a talk. Midland, 5.20 A Country Talk; The Hadley Junior Choir. Ireland, 5.0 I Want To Be An Actor; Simpelkin and Grinelda (Part 5); What About a Cycling Holiday? Scottish, 5.20 Careers—5. Journalism. Welsh, 5.0 Men of Darkness; The Adventures of David.

THURSDAY, 5.0 The Brydons' Caravan Adventure (Part 1). Welsh, 5.30 Junior Radio Record. Scottish, 5.0 Stories, Songs and Dances; MacArthur Quintet.

FRIDAY, 5.0 "Mac" and H. V. Morton visit the Tower of London.

SATURDAY, 5.0 Ulster Magazine; St Louis High School Choir, Kilkeel. West, 5.0 Bill's Regatta—a story; Pottering with boats.

SUNDAY, 5.0 Hillside Convent School Choir, Farnborough; Two stories. Midland, 5.0 Hunters of the Glen—a story. 5.15 Quiz.

MONDAY, 5.0 The Conceited Poster. 5.40 Book Review. Midland, 5.0 For younger listeners; The Golden Key; Jack Silson and his Versatile Five. Ireland, 5.0 Quiz; Poems and Stories. Scottish, 5.40 The Birdman.

TUESDAY, 5.0 A Midsummer Programme. 5.40 Current Affairs. Ireland, 5.0 Important to Us—a talk; Simpelkin and Grinelda (Final Part); A School Choir.

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